

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Serial Number: 10/688,021 (Provisional Serial Number: 60/419,699)
Appn. Filed: 2003 October 17
Applicant(s): Ross C Willoughby and Edward W. Sheehan
Appn Title: Laminated Tube for the Transport of Charged Particles Contained in a Gaseous Medium
Examiner/GAU: _____ / _____

Mailed: JAN 6, 2004
At: Pittsburgh, PA

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached is a completed Form PTO/SB/08(A&B) and copies of the pertinent parts of the references cited thereon. Following are comments on any non-English-Language references pursuant to Rule 98:

Forssmann shows an atmospheric focusing device with an accelerating and a focusing device, with the focusing device made up of a series of lens with decreasing apertures at higher potentials than the latter part of the accelerating device, for controlling the direction of the ions.

Forssmann does not show a laminated tube for introducing gas-phase ions formed at **atmospheric pressure into lower pressure regions** wherein the metal laminates of the laminated tube have **attracting [or decreasing] electrical potentials** than the previous upstream laminate, are used to focus and transfer ions in a downstream direction into the lower pressure region, forming an atmospheric-lower pressure interface, as it is recited in independent claims 1, 13, 17, and 18, and hence their dependent claims 2 to 12, 14 to 16, and 19 to 21.

To the contrary, Forssmann shows an ion focusing device at **atmospheric pressure with increasing electrical potentials** causing the deceleration and deflection of the ions in the direction of a diaphragm opening leading into a lower pressure region, the atmospheric-lower pressure interface.

Very Respectfully,

Applicant(s): Edward W. Sheehan

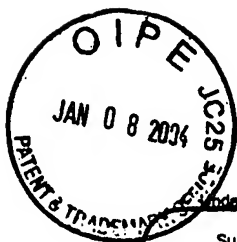
Enc.: PTO/SB/08(A&B) & References

c/o: Edward W. Sheehan and Ross C. Willoughby, Applicants Pro Se
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Certificate of Mailing

I certify that this correspondence will be deposited with the United States Postal Services as Priority Mail with proper postage affixed in an envelope address to: "Mail Stop: Box Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on the date below.

Date: 2004 JAN 6 Edward W. Sheehan, Applicant



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

C mplete if Known

Application Number	10/688,021
Filing Date	2003 October 17
First Named Inventor	Willoughby, R.C.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,542,293	9/17/1985	Fenn et al.	
		US- 4,977,320	12/11/1990	Chowdhury et al.	
		US- 5,736,740	4/7/1998	Franzen	
		US- 5,747,799	5/5/1998	Franzen	
		US- 6,107,628	8/22/2000	Smith et al.	
		US- 6,359,275 B1	3/19/2002	Bertsch et al.	
		US- 6,486,469 B1	11/26/2002	Fisher et al.	
		US- 2002/0,185,595	12/12/2002	Smith et al.	
		US- 2003/0,034,452A1	2/20/2003	Fisher et al.	
		US- 6,583,407 B1	6/24/2003	Fisher et al.	
		US- 6,583,408 B2	6/24/2003	Smith et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ⁴ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 03/010,794 A2	2/26/2003	Forssmann et al.		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

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Application Number

10/688,021

Filing Date

2003 October 17

First Named Inventor

Willoughby, R.C.

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

Sheet

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of

2

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

**Examiner
Signature**

Date _____

Considered

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